

## Message Text

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65

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66610

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:EBOSWELL

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:PJOHNSON

----- 048063

O 102035Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

:COMSIXTHFLT

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

CTF-65

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 215366

EXDIS MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT CAIRO 8910 ACTION SECSTATE INFO MOSCOW 10 SEPT

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 8910

EXDIS

DEPT PASS INFO IMMEDIATE TO:

SECDEF WASHDC

CNO WASHDC

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMSIXTHFLT

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

CTF-65

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS EG

SUBJECT: US PRESS HANDLING OF PORT SAID MINE CLEARANCE

1. AS ADDRESSEES AWARE, SOVIETS HAVE PROTESTED TO GOE

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ABOUT USN HAVING BEEN ASKED TO ASSIST IN PORT SAID MINE

CLEARANCE. THEY HAVE STATED THIS ENABLES USG TO LEARN ABOUT SOME OF THEIR CLASSIFIED MINE SYSTEMS. AS PART OF CURRENT SOVIET DISPLEASURE THAT GOE SIGNED SECOND DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT, SOVIETS HAVE INTENSIFIED THEIR PRESSURE ON EGYPT RE VARIOUS BILATERAL ISSUES, INCLUDING PORT SAID MINE CLEARANCE. IN RESPONDING, GO HAS SOUGHT TO DOWNPLAY USN ROLE. SOVIETS HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT EGYPTIAN NAVY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PORT SAID MINE CLEARANCE AND THAT USN IS SIMPLY PROVIDING SOME HELICOPTER AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO EGYPTIAN NAVY TO FACILITATE LATTER'S MISSION. IN VIEW HIGH SENSITIVITY THIS ISSUE, GOE HAS ASKED THAT WE ALSO ADHERE TO THAT LINE.

2. IN VIEW ABOVE, I THINK IT UNDESIRABLE FOR TIME BEING TO GIVE ANY EXTENSIVE PUBLICITY TO USN OPERATION AT PORT SAID. I HAVE ASKED ALUSNA TO INFORM CDR CT-65 NOT RPT NOT TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE IN NEXT WEEK OR SO AS WE HAD EARLIER DISCUSSED. I HAVE ALSO GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS THAT AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS WHO WANT TO VISIT USS INCHON OPERATION SHOULD FIRST CLEAR THROUGH THE APPROPRIATE GOE AUTHORITIES SINCE WE WANT TO CAST THIS AS EGYPTIAN SHOW. OUR PEOPLE CAN, OF COURSE, HELP THEM DO SO.

3. TRUST THAT ONCE PRESENT OUTCRY ABOUT DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT SUBSIDES A BIT, WE WILL AGAIN BE ABLE TO ARRANGE THAT USN RECEIVES PROPER PUBLICITY FOR ITS SPLENDID EFFORT.  
EILTS UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, NAVAL FORCES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, DREDGING, PORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE215366  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** O:EBOSWELL  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <24 OCT 2003 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US PRESS HANDLING OF PORT SAID MINE CLEARANCE  
**TAGS:** MASS, EG, US, UR  
**To:** CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006